

AMENDED PATENT CLAIMS (ANNEX TO THE IPER)

1. Nozzle arrangement for releasing a treatment fluid,  
with a longitudinal housing (2) with at least one fluid feed opening for feeding the  
5 treatment fluid and at least one fluid delivery opening (8) formed in the housing (2)  
for releasing the treatment fluid,  
whereby in the housing (2) a fluid channel (5) is formed for feeding the treatment  
fluid from the fluid feed opening to the at least one fluid delivery opening (8), and  
whereby the section of the fluid channel (5) reduces from the fluid feed opening in  
10 the longitudinal direction of the housing (2),  
characterized in that  
the housing (2) is made from plastic, and at or in the nozzle arrangement at least  
one stiffening member (4) made from metal and extending in the longitudinal di-  
rection of the nozzle arrangement is provided, and  
15 in the nozzle arrangement a longitudinal insert (3, 3'), in which a plurality of distri-  
bution openings (7) spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction is  
formed, is arranged so that the fluid channel (5) defined by the insert (3, 3') is in  
communication with the at least one fluid delivery opening (8) via the distribution  
openings (7), in order to feed the treatment fluid from the fluid channel (5) via the  
20 distribution openings (7) to the at least one fluid delivery opening (8).
2. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 1,  
characterized in that  
the section of the fluid channel (5) reduces continuously from the fluid feed open-  
25 ing in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2).
3. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 1 or 2,  
characterized in that  
the distribution openings (7) of the insert (3, 3') are positioned congruent to the  
30 fluid delivery openings (8) in the housing (2).

4. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the section of the fluid channel (5) reduces from the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2) from a number of sides.

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5. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that all the distribution openings (7) have the same diameter.

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6. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the length of the distribution openings (7) increases from the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2).

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7. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that the length of the distribution openings (7) of the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2) is the same.

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8. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that the distribution openings (7) have a differing diameter.

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9. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 8, characterized in that the diameter of the distribution openings (7) reduces from the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2).

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10. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the distribution openings (7) are provided with countersinkings (9) on their side turned towards the fluid channel (5).

11. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 10,  
characterized in that  
the countersinkings (9) of the distribution openings (7) have a different depth.

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12. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 11,  
characterized in that  
the depth of the countersinkings (9) of the distribution openings (7) increases from  
the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2).

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13. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that  
the housing (2) is essentially parallelepiped in shape and the stiffening member  
(4) is essentially U-shaped.

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14. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that  
between the at least one fluid delivery opening (8) and the fluid channel (5) and  
immediately before the at least one fluid delivery opening (8) a storage chamber  
(6) is formed for pressure distribution.

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15. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 14,  
characterized in that  
the storage chamber (6) is in the form of a recess provided in the longitudinal in-  
sert (3, 3') on the side of the distribution openings (7) turned towards the at least  
one fluid delivery opening (8).

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16. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 15,  
characterized in that  
all distribution openings (7) are arranged spatially at an offset to the at least one  
fluid delivery opening (8) in such a way that the treatment fluid flows out of the

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fluid delivery openings (8) via the storage chamber only after at least two changes in direction.

17. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims,  
5 characterized in that  
the at least one fluid feed opening is provided at a longitudinal end of the housing (2).

18. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 1-16,  
10 characterized in that  
the at least one fluid feed opening is provided at a middle section of the housing (2).

19. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims,  
15 characterized in that  
the housing (2) has a plurality of fluid delivery openings (8) spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction of the housing (2).

20. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 19,  
20 characterized in that  
the fluid delivery openings (8) are slotted or round.

21. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 19 or 20,  
characterized in that  
25 the fluid delivery openings (8) have the same dimensions.

22. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 19 or 20,  
characterized in that  
the fluid delivery openings (8) have a reducing width from the fluid feed opening  
30 over the length of the housing (2) or a reducing diameter over the length of the housing (2).

23. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 19-22,  
characterized in that  
the slotted fluid delivery openings (8) are formed in a plurality of rows offset from  
one another in the housing (2).

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24. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that  
in the housing (2) a plurality of connecting channels spaced from one another and  
extending widthways in the housing (2) are formed in the longitudinal direction of  
the housing (2), which communicate at one end with the fluid channel (5) in the  
housing (2) and at the other with the at least one fluid delivery opening (8).

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25. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 24,  
characterized in that  
the connecting channels are formed in a cover (11) which is positioned on the  
housing (2).

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26. Nozzle arrangement according to claim 25,  
characterized in that  
the cover (11) is positioned with a fluid-tight seal at the housing (2).

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27. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 24-26,  
characterized in that  
the connecting channels are arranged evenly spaced in the longitudinal direction  
of the housing (2).

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28. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 24-27,  
characterized in that  
the connecting channels are distributed essentially over the entire length of the  
housing (2).

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29. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 24-28, characterized in that each connecting channel extends essentially in a straight line transversely to the longitudinal direction of the housing (2).

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30. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of claims 24-29, characterized in that each connecting channel opens out into one of the fluid delivery openings (8) at either side of the housing (2).

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31. Nozzle arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a further longitudinal insert (3), which is conical in its longitudinal direction, is arranged in the housing (2) and defines together with the longitudinal insert (3') having the distribution openings (7) the fluid channel (5).

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